

Remarks:

Claim 8 was rejected over patent 2,711,786 to Weiss although his advertising bench has no heating element anywhere in the bench. Weiss's invention is only an electrical cable in the back of the bench to enhance advertising.

Claim 8 was also rejected in view of McDowell patent 6,220,659. McDowell's invention is heated by Thermofoil, a thin flexible heating element with an etched foil resistive element laminated between layers of flexible insulation. There are wires attached to the foil that supply the electricity to the foil. They are clearly not heat trace cables. Also, Thermofoil heaters cost approximately nine times the price of heat trace cable per heated square foot. If McDowell had known about this cable, he would have used it as a more cost efficient alternative. A search of the internet reveals no use of a heat trace cable in the heating of furniture. McDowell's invention is clearly different in the method of heating a bench.

Conclusion:

This applicant respectfully submits the claims define over the prior art under Section 102 because the method of heating the bench is novel and the claimed distinctions are of patentable merit under Section 103 because of this method. Accordingly, applicant submits that this application is now in full condition for allowance, which action applicant respectfully solicits.

Very respectfully,



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